

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for removing ATM cells from ~~an ATM communications device wherein ATM cells are respectively allocated in pluralities to a common~~
~~a frame, all ATM cells of a frame whose first ATM cells is in a waiting list are removed from a~~
~~waiting list for administration of a sequence of ATM cells, comprising the steps of:~~

~~storing a frame start identifier that identifies the an ATM cell in the waiting list that~~
~~immediately precedes the a first ATM cell of the frame; and~~

~~calling the frame start identifier before removal of the ATM cell of the frame;~~
wherein the frame begins farthest toward a back of the waiting list.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~wherein the frame is the frame~~
~~beginning farthest toward a back in the waiting list~~ further comprising:

removing ATM cells from the frame beginning farthest toward a back of the frame.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~further comprising the step of:~~
~~removing following ATM cells of the frame up to and including a last ATM cell of the~~
~~frame upon arrival or following arrival at the waiting list.~~

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~further comprising the step of:~~
wherein when the first ATM cell of the frame is immediately preceded by a last ATM cell of a
different frame, and further comprising:

referencing said last ATM cell by the frame start identifier.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~further comprising the step of:~~
wherein when the first ATM cell of the frame is immediately preceded by an individual ATM
cell not allocated to a frame, and further comprising:

referencing said the individual ATM cell by the frame start identifier.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for removing ATM cells from ~~an ATM~~
~~communications device wherein ATM cells are respectively allocated in pluralities to a common~~
~~frame, all ATM cells of a frame whose first ATM cell is in a waiting list are removed from a~~
~~waiting list for administration of a sequence of ATM cells, comprising the steps of:~~

~~when the first ATM cell of the frame is followed in the waiting list by an individual ATM~~
~~cell allocated to any frame, storing a predetermined inhibit value so that the ATM cells of the~~
~~frame cannot be removed from the waiting list~~ when the first ATM cell of the frame is followed
in the waiting list by an individual ATM cell allocated to any frame;

wherein the frame begins farthest toward a back of the waiting list.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined inhibit value is stored at least on of upon arrival of the individual ATM cell at the waiting list and when the individual ATM cell is added to the waiting list.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising: performing a check at or following attaching of an arrived ATM cell to an end of the waiting list to see whether the arrived ATM cell is a last cell of frame; and as warranted, storing a value that references the arriving ATM cell as the frame start identifier; so that wherein the ATM cells of the appertaining frame cannot be removed from the waiting list.